

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

In Re PATENT APPLICATION Of:

Applicants : Osamu SHIMOMURA et al.)
Serial No. : To Be Assigned)
Filed : January 11, 2002)
For : DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT)
SYSTEM)
Attorney Ref. : HAN 130)

**PRELIMINARY
AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3-6 and add claims 7-16 as follows:

3. (Amended) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein it is defined whether or not the document to be registered includes said specific date at any one of time when said document is registered, time when said access controlling information is registered, time when said access controlling information is registered, and time when the access to said document is request.

4. (Amended) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein said access controlling information includes information to specify a person to be permitted to access with limitation.

5. (Amended) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein said access controlling information includes a valid term in which the access is limited.

6. (Amended) A document management system according to Claim 1, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, includes ID information for specifying said record, and said record is added to the document by relating said ID information to the document.

--7. A document management system according to Claim 5, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, includes ID information for specifying said record, and said record is added to the document by relating said ID information to the document.

8. A document management system according to Claim 4, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, includes ID information for specifying said record, and said record is added to the document by relating said ID information to the document.

9. A document management system according to Claim 4, wherein said access controlling information includes a valid term in which the access is limited.

10. A document management system according to Claim 3, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, includes ID information for specifying said record, and said record is added to the document by relating said ID information to the document.

11. A document management system according to Claim 3, wherein said access controlling information includes a valid term in which the access is limited.

12. A document management system according to Claim 3, wherein said access controlling information includes information to specify a person to be permitted to access with limitation.

13. A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, includes ID information for specifying said record, and said record is added to the document by relating said ID information to the document.

14. A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein said access controlling information includes a valid term in which the access is limited.

15. A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein said access controlling information includes information to specify a person to be permitted to access with limitation.

16. A document management system according to Claim 2, wherein it is defined whether or not the document to be registered includes said specific date at any one of time when said document is registered, time when said access controlling information is registered, time when said access controlling information is registered, and time when the access to said document is request. --

Respectfully submitted,

January 11, 2002

Date



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MARKED-UP CLAIMS

3. (Amended) A document management system according to Claim 1 [or 2], wherein it is defined whether or not the document to be registered includes said specific date at any one of time when said document is registered, time when said access controlling information is registered, time when said access controlling information is registered, and time when the access to said document is request.

4. (Amended) A document management system according to [any one of] Claim[s] 1 [to 3], wherein said access controlling information includes information to specify a person to be permitted to access with limitation.

5. (Amended) A document management system according to [any one of] Claim[s] 1 [to 4], wherein said access controlling information includes a valid term in which the access is limited.

6. (Amended) A document management system according to [any one of] Claim[s] 1 [to 5], wherein said access controlling information is provided in a single record comprising a plurality of fields, includes ID information for specifying said record, and said record is added to the document by relating said ID information to the document.